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CURRENT EXTENSION·INFORMATION

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Reported by Members of the Staff of the Office of
Cooperative Extension Work during
November, 1931.

APR 13 1951
U. S. Department of Agriculture

ADMINISTRATION

C. B. SMITH

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) Reexamination by most extension services of their extension projects to see how each line of the work can more fully meet the problems of the depression.

(2) The executive committee of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities voted not to approve the report of the committee of 52 on Federal relation in education.

(3) Louisiana State University announces a 3-week summer school with a course in extension methods, to begin June 26, 1932. M. C. Wilson, assisted by Mary Rokahn, will give the course.

(4) The Kansas Extension Service is sending to county agents data showing that in a typical Kansas County, each \$1 is spent as follows: Support of schools and roads, 71.2 cents; State purposes, 8.9; general county purposes, 7.6; general township purposes, 4.8; soldiers' bonus, 3.7; county poor, 2.8; and extension work, only .9 of one per cent. These data form the basis for a very helpful chart, to show to the county officials concerned with the cost of extension.

Address all communications to Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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EASTERN STATES

H. W. HOCHBAUM

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) Delaware realizes the need for basing county extension programs on outlook, timely economic information, and farm-management material recognized by Delaware.

(2) The regional outlook conference of the Appalachian States, State College, Pa., October 27 to 29, was marked by the acceptance of a fundamental principle which should have a great influence in all extension work. This principle, as expressed by V. B. Hart, extension farm economist in New York, is:

"The outlook should not be one grand seasonal outburst of information followed by wiping out the gun and putting it away until another year. We must make the outlook a continuous year-round program. We must correlate the outlook not only with other economic extension work, but with the entire extension program."

Without doubt, this statement helped the county extension agents and specialists attending the conference to understand and see the need for the newer and more fundamental kind of extension programs which a few States have begun to develop; namely, adjustment or long-time extension programs. Our programs long have emphasized only production practices, and have lagged behind changing agricultural situations and needs. If the agents will now use outlook and other timely economic information, including farm-management and marketing data, as well as production data, a much larger horizon will be opened and far greater help will be given the farmer.

Specific pieces of work referred to:

(1) During October, by helping them to analyze their programs, A. D. Cobb, assistant director of extension in Delaware, showed the county agents that the problem now ahead was one of determining programs which would help farmers to adjust their operations to meet changing economic needs.

This means that the outlook, timely economic information, farm-management and marketing data on local situations and needs should be used as a basis in determining extension programs with recommendations on production practices, instead of only the latter. The extension agents are planning for next year to develop county boards of farmers, to help in getting facts and in building the needed adjustment programs.

(2) In Pennsylvania, a series of circulars and circular letters was prepared by the county agricultural agent in Columbia County and D. C. Henderson, the extension poultryman, for use in a "Grow healthy pullets" campaign. These letters and circulars are printed and illustrated, and give the farmer succinct directions for meeting the problems of chick losses from disease and parasites. Mr. Henderson reports that 40 per cent of the farmers in Columbia County asked for these letters and agreed to follow the fundamental practices recommended.

FLORENCE L. HALL

Activities or conditions noted:

- (1) Preservation of food for distribution to needy families. (Maryland, Massachusetts, and West Virginia.)
- (2) Organization of coat-making schools. (New Hampshire and Rhode Island.)
- (3) Survey by extension agents to find names of all needy families in rural districts. (Delaware.)
- (4) Annual extension conference called to make plans to adjust program to emergency economic situation. (New Jersey.)
- (5) Proprietors of tourist homes cooperate with the extension service and hold annual summary meeting. (West Virginia.)
- (6) Home-organization project developed. (Maine.)

Specific pieces of work referred to:

(1) In Maryland, Ethel Regan, home demonstration agent in Prince Georges County, gave canning demonstrations to church leaders. These leaders organized groups to can fruits and vegetables for the needy. One hundred dozen glass jars were contributed by the police department. The jars were whisky containers (2-quart glass jars acquired through confiscation of liquor). Home demonstration clubs in the county pledged quantities of canned goods. One club member gave apples from her orchard. High-school boys, organized and supervised by the principal, did the picking.

(2) Coat schools are being organized in Rhode Island as an economy measure to teach rural women to make coats for themselves and for their children. New Hampshire, Maryland, and Delaware also are carrying on this project. As an example of what this can mean in savings, last year in coat schools in New Hampshire, 305 coats were made at an average cost of \$8.43. The estimated saving was approximately \$3,000.

(3) A. M. Hulbert, assistant director in New Jersey, has been assigned by Dean Lipman to give all his time to emergency relief work. He is working closely with Chester L. Barnard, State director of unemployment. Mr. Hulbert carried on the following activities during October: (1) Through extension agents in each county data were gathered regarding unemployment throughout the State and the probable need during the winter. (2) He has asked county agents to find out as nearly as possible the amount of surplus food on farms. (3) He has worked with milk dealers in an effort to obtain lower prices for milk to be bought with emergency funds for needy families. (4) Working with relief agencies he has been instrumental in having placed in storage 20 carloads of No. 2 potatoes for distribution this winter. Most of these potatoes bought at 50 cents a sack. (5) He has had prepared lists of foods which can be recommended for needy families with the current prices of such foods. This material will be printed by Doctor Barnard's office. (6) He, with retail grocers of Newark, Paterson, Elizabeth, and Rahway, is endeavoring to work out a scheme for the distribution of food, which will insure honest dealing. In Newark, alone, 50,000 people are being aided by relief agencies. Similar conditions prevail in other New Jersey cities, while even in small towns of 300 to 500 people, proportionately large numbers of families now are being helped, and the number is increasing. Mr. Hulbert feels that this is a strategic opportunity for extension workers, especially home demonstration agents, to cooperate with relief agencies in helping to work out maintenance diets at low cost (\$5 or \$6 per week per family is the amount being given from emergency funds for food). Help also is needed by social workers in adapting these diets to persons of different nationalities, found in the industrial centers of New Jersey.

(4) The West Virginia tourist-home project is progressing. Sixteen homes are using the Mountain State tourist-home sign. This means that their accommodations are of the high standard required by the extension service. Work will be concentrated on this project during the winter, looking forward to having 50 homes cooperate in this way with the extension service by May, 1932. This project affords an excellent opportunity for raising standards in farm homes. It also gives the farm women a splendid chance to add to their income. In some cases receipts from this business in individual homes were as high as \$1,000 during the past season. Further information can be obtained from Martha Bonar, district agent, Romney, W.Va.

(5) In Maine, a phase of home-management extension is being worked out in a fine way in three counties. Local agents working with home-management and farm-management specialists, are carrying on planned series of conferences with rural people. Briefly, procedure is as follows: (1) Local committees gather and analyze information; (2) farmers and home makers use these facts as a basis for recommendations; (3) With the recommendations as a background, long-time extension programs are being developed in these counties. Further information may be obtained from Edna Cobb, home-management specialist, Maine.

CENTRAL STATES

R. A. TURNER

Activities or conditions noted:

In Kansas and Iowa a definite interest is developing in doing extension work with rural young people above 4-H club age. In Kansas 9,000 of the 165,000 farms in the State are being operated by young men under 25 years of age. (This information was obtained from the State department of agriculture.) Several of the county agricultural agents who attended the annual extension conference discussed the matter of organizing groups of these young men in their respective counties.

In Iowa, I met with an organized group of about 20 young men in Cerro Gordo County. Each man was a former 4-H club member. All are now working on or operating their home farms. These young men have outlined for themselves a program which emphasizes farm management.

Director Bliss desires that the plan outlined for this group be one that can be used in other Iowa counties.

Marion Olsen, county agricultural agent, Mason City, Iowa, or John S. Quist, assistant State club leader, Ames, Iowa, can supply additional information.

SOUTHERN STATES

C. L. CHAMBERS

Activities or conditions noted:

The agents in the Mississippi Delta and elsewhere have been fostering the growing of sagrain as a substitute for corn, as it produced more than twice as much grain as corn would have produced. When visiting the plantation of John A. Brenner of Memphis, I found him making sirup from sagrain. I believe this plan will produce as much sirup ton for ton as will ordinary sorghum. The sirup is not quite so sweet but I think it is of superior quality to ordinary sorghum. I see no reason why this plant should not replace corn in counties of low corn production throughout the South. Sagrain should go far toward solving our feed shortage problem, and probably will aid in furnishing sirup.

Specific pieces of work referred to:

Basic facts to be used as a background for the dairy program have been developed in Greenwood, S. C. J. B. Parker, dairy specialist for the Eastern States, and I met C. G. Cushman, dairy specialist for South Carolina, and O. M. Clark, State economist, at Greenwood and worked out

local economic data concerning present conditions and conditions as they should be to meet local needs in economic production and orderly marketing.

E. C. Turner, jr., county agent, presented these facts before a group of business men, bankers, and farmers. A survey is to be made under O. M. Clark's supervision, with a view to studying local types of farming to determine incomes, and enterprises which contribute to income and better living; and how incomes are reflected in farm and home equipment and comforts. All these facts will be used as a basis for developing a long-time program for Greenwood County.

WESTERN STATES

MADGE J. REESE

Activities or conditions noted:

State home demonstration leaders of the 11 Western States have reported adjustments in the home demonstration programs to meet present economic conditions. Some States do not term the changes "adjustments," but state that more emphasis is being placed on certain phases of the already existing program, which is fundamentally economic.

Specific pieces of work referred to:

The following program features emphasized in Oregon are reported by the State home demonstration leader:

(a) Planning the family budget. - A bulletin prepared in the form of a manual, based on minimum needs in food, clothing, and shelter for health and decency. Data for this bulletin were gathered in cooperation with social workers and nurses. It is possible to substitute local prices and work out a minimum budget in any community in Oregon.

(b) Economical meals. - This nutrition project is a series of three discussion meetings, either directly with community groups or through local leaders. The specialist or agent guides the home makers in working out menus based on low food costs and which also insure adequacy. The project is similar to one developed earlier, but emphasis is being given to economy and the use of local products.

(c) Use Oregon products. - A series of three meetings on a local leader basis in which Oregon products are discussed and prices compared with prices of other State food products. The purpose of these meetings is to encourage the use of local products at least when prices and quality are equal to those outside. It is not an effort to discriminate against out-of-state food products. The discussions center around (a) cereals and cereal products, (b) canned goods, (c) meats and dairy products.

(d) Home-garden project. - This is a 12-month project with the individual home cooperator, to encourage the all-year-round garden, and is developed in cooperation with the vegetable-gardening department. The garden project is first based on the total annual needs of the family for vegetables. The project has been developed within the past eight months, and already there is rather unusual interest in it.

(e) Your money's worth in household textiles. - A series of 10 radio talks, with service material sent to those who enroll for the series. The purpose is to aid home makers in buying economically at this time, when prices are low and when many people have restricted incomes. These lectures are given each Thursday afternoon. Within the first two weeks some 60 home makers were enrolled. Each person who enrolls receives samples of textiles showing differences in qualities of textiles such as are used in towels, sheets, and the like that must be renewed, even in times of economic stress.

The home demonstration slogan adopted in California for 1932 is "Keeping up appearances." This applies to the yard, the outside of the house, the interior, better food preparation, better table service, more care of clothing, and personal appearance; the whole objective being to keep up the morale of farm people. Also, organized recreation will be included in the program of each community group.

VISUAL INSTRUCTION AND EDITORIAL WORK

REUBEN BRIGHAM

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) Beautification of farm-home surroundings. Recent letters and articles received from Kansas, Missouri, and Maryland all emphasize the attention being given to the beautification of farm-home surroundings. Maryland, in particular, is finishing a 3-year flower-garden project in which, during the current year, there were 2,460 demonstrations in 15 out of the 23 counties in the State.

(2) Food preservation on farms. A recent statement from Arkansas shows that over 3,000,000 quarts of peaches were canned during the past season. To facilitate this work 334 community canning centers were set up and conducted under the supervision of home demonstration agents.

(3) Alabama has brought to a close the first 10 years of its soil-improvement campaign. Nearly 2,000,000 pounds of legume seed, principally hairy vetch and Austrian peas, were sown in 1930. It is estimated that the seeding of these legumes in 1930 added over 1,000,000 bushels to the corn crop for the current year.

C. H. HANSON

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) Cotton-acreage reduction urged in North Carolina. The following was taken from the October issue of Extension Farm News, published by the North Carolina Extension Service.

"I do not look for cotton to ever again be a major crop in North Carolina," said Director I. O. Schaub. "We shall continue to plant it, but our extension workers will urge restricted acreage of the best varieties, such as produce a staple of 1 inch and above in length. This section of the South has lost its commanding position in growing cotton in quantity and must look to retaining a leadership in quality cotton. Growers will make a mistake to put in increased acreages of tobacco next season. The thing to do next is to plant soil-improving crops, whether fertilizer is used under them or not, and get the land in a high state of fertility against the return of better days."

(2) In Ohio, 18 home demonstration agents report that in their counties every effort is being made to save the surplus for distribution among the unemployed this winter. For results of this work see Ohio Extension Service News for October, 1931.

Specific pieces of work referred to:

In the November issue of New Jersey Agriculture there is an interesting article on the new extension plan under which 4-H club members in New Jersey are now marketing their eggs. This plan was started in an effort to teach boys and girls who are members of 4-H poultry clubs better methods of production and marketing of their eggs. All eggs are sorted into two grades and are sold in special 4-H cartons.

L. A. SCHLUP

Activities or conditions noted:

The National 4-H Achievement Day Radio Program on November 7 was the most emphasized extension activity observed in November. It was a cooperative Federal-State affair, the department being responsible for two 15-minute periods at the beginning and end of the hour's program. Each of the 40 cooperating States organized from one to three local 30-minute programs. The two 15-minute periods were broadcast on the entire network of 54 stations. The 30-minute State programs went out from each of the stations.

For several months extension workers had planned for National 4-H Achievement Day. They dispatched to local newspapers news items prepared from our releases and from the releases of State editors; wrote announcements for farm-bureau news and other periodicals; prepared and distributed circular letters; announced the program at meetings and over the telephone; and in other ways stimulated interest locally in the joint

Federal-State celebration of 4-H achievement. Local achievement days were planned for the same day in many counties. Other counties organized group meetings of club members and arranged to have a radio at the home of a club member, local leader, or extension worker. In some instances, local stores provided radios. Hundreds of cards, letters, and telegrams have come in commenting very favorably on the program and urging its continuance. Many agents stated that the program and the attendant publicity would exert profound influence on rural people and would result in greater interest in 4-H club work, particularly in enrollment.

SUBJECT-MATTER SPECIALISTS

A. B. GRAHAM

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) At the State conference in Ohio, October 21 to 23, the discussion of general economics took about one-third of the time. One particular thing, however, commented on by a great many of the county agents, was the optimism on the part of the older people - the belief that everything will come back to normal in due time. In the meantime they are economizing, just as they did back in 1893 to 1900. These older people did a great deal to create a spirit of optimism among the younger farmers.

(2) In Champaign, Miami, Montgomery, and Butler Counties in Ohio, I had an opportunity to talk to some of the farm people in the market places, particularly in Dayton, where they seemed to be marking time, knowing that things are not as they would like them, but hoping for a return to normal times.

(3) At the county planning meeting in the court house at Orange, Va., both the men and the women planned to feature work that had a great many economic aspects. The women planned to work on more economical menus for meals, canning, preserving, and storing. Where possible, home gardens were selected that would grow for nearly the year-round. The agricultural plan provided for the growing of legumes as the major soil-improvement piece of work, and for the care and improvement of farm equipment.

MIRIAM BIRDSEYE

Activities or conditions noted:

- (1) Storing fruits and vegetables.
- (2) Plans for adequate winter diet at low cost.
- (3) Foods buying.
- (4) Child feeding.
- (5) School lunches.

F. D. BUTCHER

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) Nebraska is preparing to take care of a possible outbreak of grasshoppers next summer. A survey is being made to determine the egg laying done by the hopper this fall and to spot possible areas of trouble. At the recent annual conference some definite plans were drawn up for handling any outbreaks. This work is under the direction of O. S. Bare with the cooperation of M. H. Swenk, Department of Entomology, Director Brokaw of the extension service, and J. R. Parker, United States entomological laboratory.

C. P. CLOSE

Activities or conditions noted:

Economy in fruit production in New York by the following means: More general use of sod and fertilizer, thorough pruning every second or third year; use of tractor in brush removal; more efficient spraying; increasing size of orchards on good fruit soil; abandoning poor orchards of odd varieties on unsuitable soil; removing filler trees as they begin to crowd; thinning stands of trees where set too close.

Specific pieces of work referred to:

(1) Control of pear blight in California by use of zinc chloride. Best results in Sacramento County, work done by E. L. Stanley, county agricultural agent, and his assistant, J. E. Spurlock.

(2) Using too much irrigation water. - H. A. Stewart, county agent, Phoenix, Ariz., or W. R. Schoonover, Citrus Experiment Station, Riverside, Calif. Many citrus trees are killed or badly injured when excessive amounts of water are used.

(3) Organization of county fruit growers' associations in Wisconsin. These associations bought spray materials, trees, fertilizers and other orchard supplies at a great saving to the members. The saving on nitrate fertilizer was \$16 to \$60 per ton. - C. L. Kuchner, Extension Horticultural Specialist, Madison, Wis. (1931 annual report).

(4) Cooperative roadside markets organized by the southeastern Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Cooperative, and approved and inspected by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and Markets. C. L. Kuchner, Extension Horticultural Specialist, Madison, Wis. (1931 annual report).

(5) Contest in home-improvement plantings in Wisconsin, as given in the 1931 annual report of N. A. Morris, extension landscape architect. This report describes the set-up of the contest and the results obtained.

C. D. LOWE

Activities and conditions noted:

(1) Increased participation of production specialists in farm-business conferences and other activities.

(2) Tremendous interest of State workers throughout the country in aids for home slaughter, cure, and utilization of meats.

(3) Contract feeding of livestock.

(4) Livestock loss prevention.

(5) Multiple horse hitches.

(7) E. C. Young of the farm management department of Purdue University has outlined the following general adjustment program:

Avoid increasing indebtedness.

Reduce costs, particularly those involving labor, but avoid reductions that seriously reduce efficiency.

Produce products of high quality to avoid the effect of high marketing costs.

Produce concentrated products to reduce marketing costs, unless located close to the consuming market.

Take advantage of short cuts to market wherever possible.

Increase intensity of operations on good land in order to reduce the per-unit cost of taxes and other overhead and fixed charges.

Cull livestock rigorously and feed good animals well.

Give increased attention to seed selection, testing, and other good crop practices.

Give increased time and study to details of management to reduce unit costs.

Make increased use of home-grown feeds.

Give increased attention to production for the needs of the family on the farm.

Increase the production of high-yielding legumes, particularly for pasture use, where excessive costs can be avoided.

Make increased use of the county agent and other educational forces.

S. F. LYLE

Activities or conditions noted:

The present farming situation in the Southeastern States focuses attention on "two mules per worker" as the key to development of balanced farm programs in which food and feed are raised on the farm and are rotated to restore fertility; cotton acreage is reduced, and the gross income from the cotton cash crop is unincumbered, or almost so, by production

and living costs; a farm-operation plan in which the cash-crop income tends to become the net cash income of the farm. This key factor needs more widespread recognition in a plan recommending the essential features for the successful operation of the family farm unit on a 2-mule basis. It is a minor feature of farm machinery work in all the Southeastern States but merits more attention and cooperative effort at the present time, since the 1-mule system is pauperizing the small farm operators and croppers and bankrupting the larger operators.

Specific pieces of work referred to:

Machinery conferences for county agents, conducted by J. T. McAlister, extension agricultural engineer, Clemson College, S. C. The last conference at Columbia, S. C., November 2 to 6, 1931, had an attendance of 25 agents.

E. M. NIGHBERT

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) Horse-parasite control in Illinois, a cooperative project of State extension force, farmers, and veterinarians.

(2) Bovine-abortion disease eradication in Missouri on a state-wide basis.

Specific pieces of work referred to:

Southeastern States hog school. The fourth annual school is now being planned. R. A. Stratford, county agricultural agent, Moultrie, Ga., can tell the story.

A. B. NYSTROM

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) A conference of dairy extension specialists was held in the dairy show arena, St. Louis, October 13. It was attended by 41 persons from 19 States and the United States Department of Agriculture. The large attendance and enthusiasm in evidence indicate that extension dairymen should get together now and then to discuss their problems.

(2) One good sign in dairy extension work in the North Central States is the increased interest taken in dairy-herd improvement association work by the State extension workers. This interest is shown by the attendance of county agents, district supervisors, and directors at testers' conferences. Members of the State extension services are realizing more fully each year the great possibilities in using the dairy-herd improvement association member as a demonstrator of all good dairy practices.

J. B. PARKER

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) In South Carolina there has been a tremendous development in the construction of trench silos. Previously it has been believed that this type of silo was not adapted to eastern conditions. The trench silo is a type that is very economical in cost of construction, readily adaptable to the various-sized herds, and can be enlarged as the herds are increased in size. The limited income of the southern farmers makes the above-ground type of silo out of the question for the majority. Farmers can readily be influenced to construct the trench type. In Greenwood County, alone, 34 silos of the trench type have been filled this year, and the dairy specialist advised me that over 2,500 requests for information on the construction of silos have been received this year.

(2) The development in Virginia of a plan for milk and cream quality improvement which should cut down on losses sustained by dairymen in the production of lower-quality milk, and should result also in a greater demand and greater consumption.

Specific pieces of work referred to:

In South Carolina the development of a long-time livestock and dairy program for Greenwood County offers real promise. This program is based on present conditions and has developed readjustments based on actual needs of the county.

P. D. SANDERS

Activities or conditions noted:

C. O. Hopkins, extension entomologist, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, says in a recent letter, "Please send me 100 copies of the Bulletin, Control of Equine Parasites. This bulletin will be very timely, as our work animals surely need all the stamina and endurance they can get from the limited amount of feed they receive."

H. L. SHRADER

Activities or conditions noted:

(1) Cooperative pools for marketing turkeys.

(2) En route from Texas, I stopped off at Columbus, Ohio, where Mr. Hochbaum and I spent two days with the three poultry specialists, analyzing results obtained, and making future plans, on the "Grow healthy chicks" project. The results tabulated do not show a marked difference in certain practices advocated. This is partly explained by a careful study of the records. Only those who were successful sent in reports.

It was suggested that additional effort be made to get a larger percentage of those who enroll in the project to complete the report, especially those who fail to raise the chicks. A different system of approach was recommended to determine the points to be followed. Instead of a cut-and-dried program, worked out in the office and taken to the counties to unload, it was suggested that a preliminary or steering committee should be selected to launch the project and to have a voice in selecting the practices to be recommended. The Ohio specialists have been giving serious thought to their methods. They have not adapted their field work to other methods very rapidly. This year, with a decrease in travel funds, I think more will be accomplished along this line.

Specific pieces of work referred to:

(1) A unique turkey-tom display was held at Seymour, Tex., under the direction of P. C. Colgin, county agricultural agent. Farmers were urged to bring in a young and old tom for the exhibit. These birds were judged or graded, and special emphasis was placed on the quality of the offspring. The good and fair breeders were marked with the owner's name, and the lowest grade or poor breeders were tagged, but no publicity was given. Most of the birds were judged when the owners were present, and a great deal of interest was shown. Mr. Cunyus, Texas A. and M. poultry specialist, and I acted as judges or critics. Plans were developed at this meeting for a pool for the sale of turkeys.

(2) A 1-day trip was made to Richmond, Va., to assist the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in holding a turkey-grading school. The bureau was working in cooperation with the State marketing bureau. At Culpeper and Harrisonburg, Va., pools for marketing turkeys have been formed. The regular inspectors were being coached to handle this commodity. The farmers expected a lower market this year, but the lower price has helped to bring about cooperation.

W. K. WILLIAMS

Specific points referred to:

(1) Cooperative marketing of Christmas trees is being carried on in New Hampshire under the direction of C. S. Herr, assistant county extension forester. Last year three cars were shipped; this year 6 to 8 cars will be shipped. Farmers selling trees cooperatively will receive around 50 cents per bundle for trees as compared to 25 to 30 cents which will be received by those farmers selling on the open market. Information can be obtained from C. S. Herr, assistant county agent forester, Lancaster, N. H.

(2) Charles Higgins, Littleton, N. H., has 300 acres of woods and is following the recommendations of the extension forester. At the present time he is cutting saw logs and pulpwood, and in the spring will operate a sugar-maple orchard. Mr. Higgins has good markets for any timber products he desires to get out. His woods are a very important unit of the farm and one which provides a cash income. Information can be obtained from C. S. Herr, assistant county agent forester, Lancaster, N.H.

EXTENSION STUDIES AND TEACHING

E. H. SHINN

Activities or conditions noted:

Large amount of food and feed materials accumulated on farms in the South.

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS EXTENSION

A. E. MERCKER

Activities or conditions noted:

Florida and North Carolina potato growers are showing a greater interest in extension economic work. They are attending meetings in larger numbers than for any period during our three years' work in that territory. They are also becoming better acquainted and more familiar with the charts used and are asking many more intelligent questions than formerly regarding the work. At our 11 North Carolina meetings, I asked the county agent to take paper and pencil, go around the hall and ask some of the growers how many acres they had planted to early potatoes in 1931 and the number of acres they intended to plant in 1932. Results were surprising. In every instance the county agent learned the acreage planted last season but found that growers were awaiting the information to be given to them at the meeting before they decided on what acreage to plant in 1932. Most dealers and cooperatives are now adjusting their production financing in line with our information. The potato specialist of the Federal Farm Board has advised me that the board has included a clause in its contract for financing cooperatives in the Southwest which provides that credit advanced to cooperatives for production will be in keeping with economic information recommended by the early potato committee.

